1790. 40

THE TEST;

OR,

The Diſſenters Frolic.

A NEW BALLAD.

TUNE—*There was a jovial Beggar.*

COME, all ye bold Diſſenters,
Of high and low degree;
Let's haſten to the Parliament—
And beggars we will be.
And a begging we will go, will go,
Will go—and a begging we will go.

We'll beg the Houſe of Commons
To hear our diſmal tale;
And, doubt not, our petitions
Will, firſt or laſt, prevail—
So a begging we will go, &c.

For, as a ſturdy beggar
Ties up an arm or leg;
Or ſcarifies his head and face,
That better he may beg—
So a begging, &c.

Thus we will trump up grievances,
And ſham that we're oppreſs'd;
And then, whate'er our meaning is,
By none will it be gueſs'd—
So a begging, &c.

Let us by begging once deſtroy
The barrier of the TEST;
Then ſoon, with PRIESTLEY's gunpowder,
We'll blow up all the reſt—
So a begging, &c.

With this we ſoon ſhall overturn
Religion and the Laws:
And, in their ſtead, we'll, with ourſelves,
Set up the—GOOD OLD CAUSE—
So a begging, &c.

When once the hop'd-for breach is made,
We'll do whate'er we chuſe;
The Church's doors ſhall open ſtand,
To Papiſts, Turks, and Jews—
So a begging, &c.

Our pious Fathers, on a time,
O'erturn'd both Church and State;
And if our Begging ſhould prevail,
Again they 'll meet their fate—
So a begging, &c.

Then from all rule and government,
From King and Lords ſet free,
The Biſhops we no more ſhall have,
But Biſhops we will be—
So a begging, &c.

But ſhould the Houſe of Commons once
Suſpect our dark deſigns,
We fear that we ſhould find ourſelves
Blown up by our own Mines—
Then a begging we muſt go, &c.

Then mind, good Brethren, what ye do,
Beware the fatal hour;
For *conſcience* roar, and *liberty*——
But name not *wealth* and *power*—
So a begging, &c.

Would ye get rid of this ſame TEST;
Our foes with *Teſts* purſue,
And vow you 'll never vote for thoſe
Who will not vote for you—
So a begging we will go, &c.

Heav'n bleſs the King and Parliament,
And grant that they mayn't ſee
What we do mean, till 'tis too late,
Then—"HEIGH BOYS, UP GO WE!"
And a begging they may go, &c.